



## INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics, ring Mr Godfrey Laurie on Canberra 526573 or our State office or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

### INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, SEPTEMBER 1976

#### MAIN FEATURES

- Industrial dispute statistics for the month of September 1976 show that there were —

222 disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more  
63,000 workers involved  
143,400 working days lost.

- The main disputes during the month involved construction industry workers in Queensland and iron ore miners in Western Australia.
- In the September quarter 1976 2,020,700 working days were lost, 78 per cent of which were due to the Medibank stoppages. This was the highest number of working days lost in a quarter since 1929 except for the March quarter 1974 when almost 2.5 million working days were lost.

#### EXPLANATORY NOTES

This bulletin contains statistics of industrial disputes for the month of September 1976 and some previous periods. More information about these disputes will appear later in the detailed quarterly bulletin *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6). The quarterly bulletins also include statistics for earlier periods.

- The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in the Bureau

publication *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (Preliminary Edition)*, 1969, Vol. 1.

- The statistics of industrial disputes refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

- Stoppages of work occurring at different times and at different establishments, but having a common cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However, an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. Disputes not settled at the end of a year are included as new disputes in the figures for the following year. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Average days lost per worker involved on a monthly basis are not comparable with the yearly averages, because workers involved are included in each month in which they are involved in disputes, while they are counted once only for each dispute in the annual figures. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.



TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ( <sup>'000</sup> )		Working days lost		Estimated loss in wages (a) (\$'000)
	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Number (a) ( <sup>'000</sup> )	Average days per worker involved (b)	
1971	..	2,404	..	1,326.5	3,068.6	2.3	45,241.3
1972	..	2,298	..	1,113.8	2,010.3	1.8	32,074.4
1973	..	2,538	..	803.0	2,634.7	3.3	45,206.5
1974	..	2,809	..	2,004.8	6,292.5	3.1	128,301.8
1975	..	2,432	..	1,398.0	3,509.9	2.5	95,760.7
1975 -							
September	176	219	55.2	78.6	264.9	3.4	7,566.8
October	212	238	98.3	115.6	206.1	1.8	5,477.3
November	153	182	312.7	322.3	270.1	0.8	7,289.5
December	86	103	11.5	15.2	39.7	2.6	1,090.6
1976 -							
January	122	122	16.8	16.8	71.2	4.2	2,096.0
February	234	261	64.6	69.7	192.7	2.8	5,624.8
March	236	272	63.3	71.3	242.6	3.4	6,866.7
April	151	184	52.2	61.5	165.7	2.7	5,314.9
May	182	211	83.7	91.2	128.6	1.4	3,886.9
June (c)	164	187	398.5	400.9	573.0	1.4	16,763.2
July (c)(d)	142	168	1,293.3	1,625.0	1,673.4	1.0	48,664.1
August (d)	178	203	64.8	73.0	203.9	2.8	6,677.4
September (d)	189	222	49.7	63.0	143.4	2.3	4,713.3

(a) Refers to all disputes operative and workers involved in the period - see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Monthly figures are not comparable with yearly figures - see paragraph 4, page 1. (c) Includes Medibank stoppages. (d) Subject to revision.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES (a), AUSTRALIA,  
WORKING DAYS LOST (<sup>'000</sup>) (b)

Period	Manufacturing					Transport and storage; communication		Other industries (d)	All industries
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment (c).	Other	Constru- ction	Steve- doring services	Other		
	Coal	Other							
1971	251.6	83.2	636.7	317.7	1,109.5	73.9	300.1	295.9	3,068.6
1972	60.8	62.0	620.2	393.7	407.8	39.2	205.2	221.3	2,010.3
1973	87.5	155.3	800.8	661.4	439.3	49.5	93.2	347.6	2,634.7
1974	163.0	146.5	2,850.8	756.7	1,188.7	111.1	516.2	559.4	6,292.5
1975	343.3	90.0	1,279.2	464.1	497.0	46.2	146.7	643.5	3,509.9
1975 -									
September	72.0	9.9	83.5	23.8	14.7	1.7	27.0	32.2	264.9
October	2.2	4.9	83.5	44.9	16.9	6.3	11.9	35.5	206.1
November	3.0	9.1	75.1	62.1	33.6	10.8	30.8	45.5	270.1
December	1.5	2.1	9.8	20.5	1.7	1.4	2.0	0.7	39.7
1976 -									
January	0.9	20.3	5.6	29.9	10.3	0.1	1.4	2.5	71.2
February	13.1	19.8	45.8	55.7	28.3	4.2	3.3	22.6	192.7
March	10.7	6.8	36.5	54.8	32.2	0.5	18.5	82.7	242.6
April	6.0	37.1	32.5	11.4	25.6	1.2	8.2	43.8	165.7
May	3.6	13.7	13.6	13.7	17.5	3.1	50.7	12.7	128.6
June (e)	10.1	17.3	128.6	88.5	87.7	5.5	102.2	133.1	573.0
July (e)(f)	30.6	30.4	366.5	355.3	223.9	14.0	183.2	469.6	1,673.4
August (f)	54.6	4.0	64.3	33.3	19.6	2.6	6.3	19.5	203.9
September (f)	10.6	26.6	27.2	36.6	28.6	2.1	4.6	7.2	143.4

(a) Australian Standard Industrial Classification - see paragraph 2, page 1. (b) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 4, page 1. (c) ASIC sub-divisions 29, 31, 32, 33. (d) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L. (e) Includes Medibank stoppages. (f) Subject to revision.



TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES  
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)

<i>Period</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A.</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>Aust. (b)</i>
1971	1,887.5	689.6	271.4	111.2	69.4	20.6	3,068.6
1972	866.8	638.4	292.2	60.9	94.6	19.2	2,010.3
1973	1,098.1	780.5	320.2	130.6	117.3	140.1	2,634.7
1974	2,665.0	2,386.6	529.5	316.5	256.9	88.5	6,292.5
1975	1,477.8	1,221.7	473.3	127.6	100.7	40.6	3,509.9
1973 -							
September	91.2	83.2	25.1	6.8	4.3	0.2	215.9
October	110.3	87.3	14.9	15.3	12.9	1.8	245.2
November	125.2	44.6	27.4	23.3	21.0	8.5	257.9
December	10.8	6.5	3.4	24.7	0.8	3.6	49.8
1974 -							
January	30.9	7.5	6.4	1.3	5.9	0.2	53.6
February	253.4	125.7	13.2	16.1	5.0	1.1	418.1
March	1,063.1	728.0	45.8	99.1	8.6	54.1	2,011.3
April	351.4	454.8	67.2	37.2	16.8	5.2	936.1
May	252.0	189.1	44.3	52.2	11.4	4.4	559.6
June	108.7	94.4	7.3	7.4	12.1	3.0	235.1
July	117.3	214.7	136.2	37.8	11.8	4.6	526.2
August	215.0	400.2	127.7	34.6	28.9	1.5	816.3
September	116.7	73.9	25.2	18.4	17.7	1.4	255.1
October	46.3	49.2	19.7	6.3	105.5	11.3	238.6
November	69.0	31.5	27.2	5.2	25.3	1.4	161.8
December	41.3	17.6	9.4	1.0	7.9	0.1	80.5
1975 -							
January	15.1	7.5	7.1	3.1	4.0	0.1	36.9
February	54.5	15.8	32.6	4.3	6.0	0.4	116.7
March	119.6	18.9	24.0	2.6	1.6	0.5	169.1
April	281.6	91.4	16.2	5.2	9.7	1.9	416.3
May	218.7	215.7	31.5	10.9	15.7	2.2	504.6
June	280.2	217.3	65.8	24.9	14.4	8.3	635.3
July	210.9	208.6	80.0	26.7	10.4	12.0	557.6
August	91.6	109.8	57.2	14.4	8.1	8.1	292.8
September	86.5	90.6	66.4	9.3	6.9	2.1	264.9
October	67.7	75.2	35.6	16.9	7.1	2.7	206.1
November	37.5	152.8	54.8	7.6	14.1	1.4	270.1
December	13.8	18.2	2.3	1.7	2.7	1.0	39.7
1976 -							
January	14.8	20.5	5.3	0.8	22.0	7.8	71.2
February	107.7	31.3	16.2	4.1	24.0	8.7	192.7
March	93.4	110.5	14.5	11.5	9.1	0.6	242.6
April	54.4	42.1	18.9	7.6	39.2	1.5	165.7
May	44.4	35.4	18.7	6.6	15.6	4.4	128.6
June (c)	91.4	443.9	20.2	4.6	11.5	0.5	573.0
July (c)(d)	729.4	525.6	236.7	93.9	48.8	25.0	1,673.4
August (d)	95.9	72.9	12.3	8.7	6.8	7.1	203.9
September (d)	32.1	38.9	33.0	3.6	29.3	5.3	143.4

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period — see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Includes Medibank stoppages. (d) Subject to revision.

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